

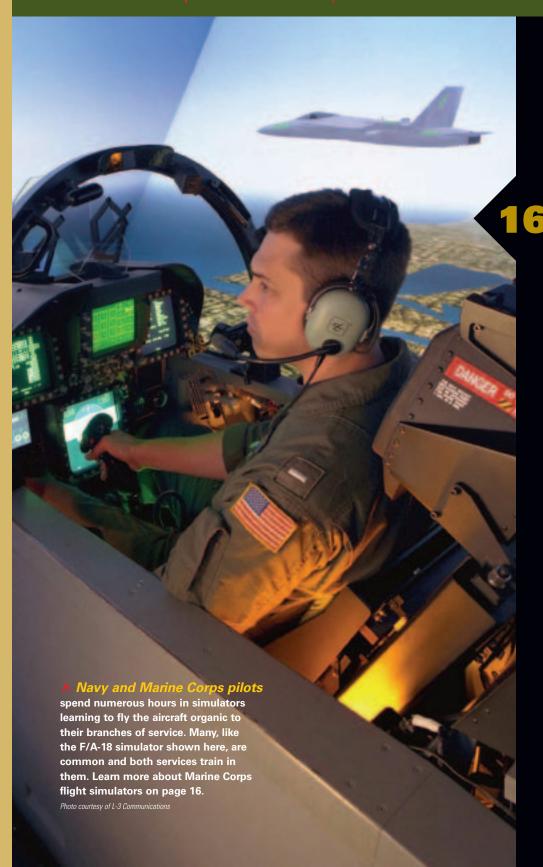
January • March 2005

TOUGE

Volume 34

Number 1

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FEATURES

10 Tomorrow's Technology Today

Marines takes a look at the new weapons, equipment and concepts being tested around the Corps.

Simulations
Add Playtime
to Training Cycle

Scenario-driven training teaches Marines the lessons of combat outside the 'School of Hardknocks.'

From the Trenches

- 24 26th MEU Makes Training History in New Orleans
- **26** | Climbing to New Heights
- 27 DI School's Top Enlisted
 Tramples Boot Camp Mystique
- 28 | Helicopter Support Teams Get Taste of Desert
- 30 | Marines Aid Storm-Ravaged Philippines
- 31 Deck Stacked in Children's Favor
- 32 Logistics Battalion Provides
 Vital Support to Wing

1

GOUGE

– Staff Sgt. Roger W. King a Gravette, Ark., native, said after he re-enlisted March 11 while deployed to Al Asad, Iraq.

DIVISIONS

On Liberty 36

Single Marines experience the ups and downs of snowboarding. • CMC's reading list is revised. • Marines reviews Microsoft Combat Flight Simulator 3, Battle for Europe for PC. • Marines wants your book reviews.





40 Over There

Marines Over There fight insurgents and burst through doors into harm's way. They stand in lines to give blood when other Marines are injured. While on the front lines of the Global War on Terror becoming the leaders of tomorrow, they carry on the traditions of the men and women who bore the title before them.

Corps Shots 44



Sound Off

Sempertoon

Calendar

· Cold as Ice

 Battlefield Cruisers

Scuttlebutt

· Little Robot,

Big Job

Marines

Go Postal

 Executive Support

· 'Tanks' for the Upgrades

Short Count

Fact File Iraq Insurgency Ordnance

35

PME

 Combat Veterans Top 20 'Must-Haves'

Saved Rounds Boondoggle More Money Sought for Families of Fallen Marines

64

Tailend Charlie

 Foreign Service Officers Needed

Bases Offer Free Help with Tax Returns

 Beverage Company Offers Free Service Members

MARINES

The Corps' Official Magazine January • March 2005 www.marines.mil/marinesmagazine

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NEW STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Sgt. Clinton Firstbrook



🦰 hown here during Operation Al Fajr, the November 2004 battle for Falluiah. Iraq, is the newest member of Marines staff. He enlisted in the Corps Aug. 31, 2000, and entered recruit training June 10, 2001. Upon graduating from the Defense Information School as a combat correspondent, the 24-year-old Jeffers, Minn.,

native served as a broadcaster at AFN Iwakuni, Japan. A year later, he joined the Division of Public Affairs as a part of the Community Relations office.

He volunteered for duty in Iraq, and in September 2004, found himself in Baghdad, working at the Combined Press Information Center.

He saw his "fair share of mortar attacks and convoy patrols" as he traveled around the country writing about all the services, but Operation Al Fajr was his first experience with real combat,

On that first night in Fallujah, "when the Amtrak doors opened and everyone ran out I didn't even think of trying to take pictures. All I wanted to do was find cover." By morning, he had garnered a new respect from infantry Marines and throughout his remaining months in country covered many aspects of the infantrymen's lives.

He says his time in Iraq has changed him. "The little things I would run into that used to get me upset no longer bother me. Compared to what I could be dealing with, they aren't important

You can read some of Firstbrook's reports from Iraq at www.marines.mil, keyword "Firstbrook."

Welcome aboard, Marine. M

On the Cover

21st Century Warriors — The battle attire and weapons used by today's Marines are a far cry from what Marines wore in 1775. Gone are the wool overcoats and field camouflage and automatic weapons. See what else Marines use in the fight against terrorism on page 10.

Illustration by Seth Sirbaugh, Bates Creative Group

SOUND OFF

Adapt and Overcome

HROUGHOUT MARINE CORPS HISTORY, CRITICS HAVE tried to eliminate us, claiming that the Army or the Navy could preform our missions. As such, we've had to defend ourselves against numerous abolishment attempts.

President Andrew Jackson recommended to Congress that the Corps be absorbed into the Army in 1829 - a suggestion that found favor with then Secretary of the Navy John Branch.

About this same time, we were proving our fighting ability during engagements in Quallah Battoo against Malays. Perhaps

From the Editor

reports of our valor influenced Congress, for it passed an act in 1834 that firmly established us as a separate service within the Department of the Navy.

Our right to exist as a service was again questioned in 1908 by President Theodore Roosevelt who felt the Corps should be merged into the Army and that "no vestige of their organization should be allowed to remain."

Again Congress disagreed.

In 1946, Senate bill S. 2044 proposed the unification of the armed forces. The bill would have severely reduced the Corps' effectiveness as a fighting organization.

In his 'No Bended Knee' speech to the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs May 6, 1946, Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Alexander Vandegrift spoke vehemently against this bill, citing the Corps contributions in World War II and our role as the "primary force in readiness" as proof of our value to the nation.

After much debate, the Corps again survived. The National Security Act of 1947 unified the services under the Department of Defense, but defined us as the "fleet marine forces of combined arms, together with supporting air components, for service with the fleet in the seizure or defense of advanced naval bases, and for the conduct of such land operations as may be essential to the prosecution of a naval campaign."

Our reluctance to go away quietly combined with our adaptability and forward thinking fighting skills justify our continued existence.

Today, we continue "to adapt and overcome" and this is an essential ingredient in our success. We hone our skills in anticipation of new enemies and battlegrounds and our adaptability ensures Marines are protecting America for generations to come.

As cities continue to become the common battleground, we fight the "three-block war" and further develop the leadership skills of our junior Marines. We focus on expeditionary warfare and can now strike far inland from bases at sea.

This issue of Marines looks at our ability to adapt and overcome and the technology and ideas being developed to help new generations of Marines fight on the battlefields of the future.

> Semper Fi, Marines

www.marines.m

Janu

March

SOUND OFF

I have tried to log on to (Marine OnLine) but I cannot remember my ID or my password. I have tried the reset option at MOL but nothing seems to work. Now, it appears that I am locked out from trying to register or login. Perhaps my name is misspelled in the system or another error that is preventing my access. It would be gratefully appreciated if you could help me get back into MOL. Thank you for your time and

Compiled from multiple emails regarding MOL access

MOL user,

Marine OnLine draws from names contained in a central data store to verify access to the system. Marine OnLine uses a First Initial – Middle Initial – Last Name naming convention for accounts. Therefore, John Q. Smith would have the Username of "JQSMITH". The only exception occurs when a username is already taken at the time of registration. In that case, a number is appended to the end of the username [e.g. JQSMITH1].

With regard to being locked out of the system, after four attempts to register users

are locked out from attempting to register or log in for only twenty minutes. Wait and try again. Remember, passwords are case sensitive (usernames are not); make sure you don't inadvertently have the "Caps Lock" on.

If this fails, please try the follow on-line account recovery procedures and follow the directions there. You will need to authenticate yourself before having your account information displayed on screen. The web site will ask for your Social Security Number, Date of Birth and Pay Entry Base Date to retrieve your Username. You can then use your Date of Birth and Pay Entry Base Date (PEBD found on block 8 of your LES) with your username to recover your password.

In each case, you will need to provide the answer to the security question you selected at the time of your registration. If all these attempts fail, you can email the MOL Support team at mol.support @dfas.mil. Include your full name, last four digits of your SSN, Date of Birth, Pay Entry Base Date and military occupational specialty. The information provided will be used to verify your identity and respond with account information as soon as possible.

Marines Editor

SemperToons By Staff Sgt. Charles F. Wolf "Yes GUNNY, "GET OUT OF *EXCUSE ME. THANK YOU, GUNNY!" "Boy!,...I Think he likes you..., most LT's don't even see his carpet..!" THE GUNNY

We have watched today's news with fascination and pride. Thank you Marines for your priceless contribution to history and a better future for the freedom-seeking citizens of Iraq. The price for this victory has been high and Americans have born each sacrifice with the shared pain of grieving families. We will continue to hold each brave Marine in our hearts. praying for their safety and comfort, and for that great day when we can welcome them home.

> Gratefully, Sandra and Errol Thomason Hemet, Calif.

Tell it to the Marines!



Here's your chance to write for *Marines*. Take a look at the photograph above and tell us what you think is happening. Submit your funny caption to **McNews@hqmc.usmc.mil**. Include your name, unit and base. Marines will pick the best one to run in next quarter's issue.



Last Issue's Funny Caption Winner: "This downsizing thing has gone too far!"

- Staff Sgt. Ken Reed, Marine veteran 1988-1998, Algonac, Mich. More information on concert dates and community events can be found on the Community Relations Web

If you have a calendar event of Marine Corpswide interest, submit it to

29 < April 29

April 30 >

Last day of reporting

for first lieutenants

warrant and chief warrant officers Arbor Day

ALENDAR

A ²⁰⁰ 1	RIL A	M	2005 AY	T 200	NE NE
	01 < April 1 April Fool's Day	May 1 > Asian/Pacific Heritage Month	O1 < May 1 At 2 p.m. the President's	J	01 WED
	02	May 2, 1946 >	Own Marine Band performs at The Music		02
	SAI OO	Marines from Treasure Island Marine Barracks,	Center at Strathmore,		
April 3 > Spring Forward!	Sun < April 3 At 2 p.m. the	under the command of Warrant Officer Charles	TUE N. Bethesda, Md.	The second second	O3 FRI
Daylight savings time begins.	04 President's Own Chamber Ensembles	L. Buckner, aided in suppressing a three-	04 WED		04 SAT
	perform at the Georgi 05 Washington Masonic	Alcatraz Penitentiary in	05 THUR < May 5		05
	National Memorial Auditorium, 101 O6 Callahan Drive,	San Francisco Bay. Buckner led his force	Cinco de Mayo	STATE OF THE PARTY	D-Day, June 6, 1944
	Alexandria, Va.	of Marines without suffering a single	řří	Sunset Parade – June 7	06 Sune 6 Anniversary of D-Day
	07 THUR	casualty.		June 7 > Season's first Sunset	07 TUE
	08 FRI	May 8 >	OB < May 8	Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial	08 WED
	09	At 2 p.m. the President's Own Marine Band performs at the Northern	Mother's Day 09 MON	in Washington.	09 THUR
	10	Virginia Community College's Rachel M.			·
1 m	10 < April 10 At 2 p.m. the	Schlesinger Concert Hall, Mary Collier	10 TUE		10 FRI
1000	11 President's Own Marine Band perform at George Mason	Paker Theater 2001	11 WED President's Own,		11 SAT
President's Own,	12 University's Center fo	r Alexandria, Va.	Marine Band – May 8		12 SUN
Marine Band – April 10	Braddock Road and Route 123, Fairfax, Va		13 < May 13		13 MON
			Season's first Evening Parade at the Marine		Flag Day – June 14
	14 THUR		Barracks 8th & I.		14 TUE < June 14 Flag Day
April 15 > Taxes due (See Saved	15 < April 15, 1962 Marine Corps	May 15 > At 2 p.m. the President's	15 sun		15 WED
Rounds, page 62, for more tax information).	operational involvement in	Own Chamber Ensembles perform	16 MON		16 THUR
April 17 >	the Vietnam War began on	at the George Washington Masonic	17 TUE		17 FRI
	Sun Paim Sunday.	National Memorial Auditorium,		The 24th Marine Expeditionary	FRI
Chamber Ensembles	MON Gunnery Sgt. board convenes	101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, Va.	18 WED	Unit returned to Mogadishu, Somalia,	SAT
Washington Masonic National Memorial	19 < April 19		19 THUR Evening Parade,	to help United Nations forces maintain peace	19 < June 19 Father's Day
Auditorium, 101 Callahan Drive,	20 WED		Marine Barracks 20 8th & I – May 13 FRI	in the war-torn country. June 20, 1993 >	20 MON
ਹਿੰਦੂ Alexandria, Va. ਕ੍ਰਿ ਉ	21 THUR		21		21 TUE < June 21
Day pho	Gunnery Sgt.	In Vietnam, Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st			First day of summer.
اص Jewish Passover ق begins at sundown	22 Board - April 19 FRI	Battalion, 26th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 5th	At 2 p.m. the President's Own Marine Band		22 WED
April 23 >	April 23 Earth Day	Marines began sweeps in the Dodge City/Go Noi	Mon performs at George Mason University's		23 THUR
April 24 >	24 SUN	areas southwest of Da Nang. It terminated at	24 Center for Arts Concert TUE Hall, Braddock Road		24 FRI
At 2 p.m. the President's Own Chamber Orchestra	25 MON	the end of June with 610 enemy killed in	and Route 123, 25 Fairfax, Va.	June 25, 1966 >	25
fo performs at the Northern Virginia		action. It cost the lives of 34 Marines. May 26, 1969 >	0000	In Vietnam, Operation Jay began about 30 kilometers porthysest	26 < June 26, 1918
Community College's Rachel M. Schlesinger	Z6 TUE Earth Day – April 23	Wilay 20, 1303 /	26 THUR	kilometers northwest of Hue, and lasted nine days. The 2nd Battalion,	Battle of Belleau
At 2 p.m. the President's Own Chamber Ensembles perform at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Auditorium, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, Va. Jewish Passover begins at sundown April 23 > April 24 p.m. the President's Own Chamber Orchestra performs at the Northern Virginia Community College's Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, Mary Collier Baker Theater, 2011 N. Payspand Propagators	Take our Sons and	200	27 FRI	4th Marines landed north of the North	27 Wood ends.

Last day of reporting

for captains, majors,

and colonels

fitness reports.

for gunnery sergeants

first sergeants, master

sergeants and brigadier generals

fitness reports

30 < June 30

Force Battalion, and the 2nd Battalion, 1st

Marines landed south of

Marine units, the enemy

dead in nine days of fighting.

Sports Events Community Events Concert Dates Historical Dates

the enemy's position

In between the two

suffered more than 80

2005